



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF	:	Administrative Action
	:	
	:	
	:	
ANGELA ROSSI, L.P.N.	:	FINAL ORDER
License # 26NP05222000	:	OF DISCIPLINE
	:	
	:	
TO PRACTICE NURSING IN THE	:	
STATE OF NEW JERSEY	:	

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing ("Board") upon receipt of information which the Board has reviewed and upon which the following findings of fact and conclusions of law are made:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Angela Rossi ("Respondent") is a Licensed Practical Nurse in the State of New Jersey and has been a licensee at all times relevant hereto.

2. On or about May 28, 2014, Respondent completed and submitted an online biennial renewal application which asked whether Respondent would have "completed the required continuing education credits by May 31, 2014," referring to the biennial

renewal period of June 1, 2012 - May 31, 2014. Respondent answered "yes" and certified that answer by submitting the online application.

3. On January 23, 2015, the Board sent a letter of inquiry to Respondent's mailing address in Lanoka Harbor, New Jersey, via regular and certified mail, requesting certain information and documents, including proof of having completed the required continuing education.

5. On or about February 12, 2015, the Board received a partial response from the Respondent which did not mention continuing education and did not include any certificates of completion.¹

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3(b), nurses are required to complete a minimum of thirty (30) hours of continuing education during the preceding biennial period in order to renew their licenses. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3(f), nurses are required to maintain documentation of completion of continuing education for a period of four years after completion, and shall submit such documentation to the Board upon request.

Respondent failed to demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the Board, that Respondent completed the continuing education

¹As Respondent's reply was not pertinent to the issue of continuing education, it is not attached as an exhibit.

credits required for renewal during the biennial period of June 1, 2012 to May 31, 2014. The Board therefore finds Respondent in violation of N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3(b) and 13:37-5.3(f), which in turn subjects Respondent to sanctions pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e) and (h).

Respondent's use of dishonesty and misrepresentation during the license renewal process in falsifying her continuing education information constitutes a violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(b), subjecting Respondent to sanctions.

Based on the foregoing findings and conclusions, a Provisional Order of Discipline was entered on May 19, 2015, provisionally suspending respondent's nursing license and imposing a reprimand and a \$250 civil penalty. A copy of the Order was served upon respondent by certified and regular mail at her address of record. The Provisional Order was subject to finalization by the Board at 5:00 p.m. on the 30th day following entry unless respondent requested a modification or dismissal of the stated Findings of Fact or Conclusions of Law by submitting a written request for modification or dismissal setting forth in writing any and all reasons why said findings and conclusions should be modified or dismissed and submitting any and all

documents or other written evidence supporting respondent's request for consideration and reasons therefor.

Respondent replied to the Provisional Order, and documented untimely completion of 36.5 contact hours of qualifying nursing continuing education. The Board therefore found that suspension was no longer applicable, as respondent had demonstrated that she had belatedly complied with the continuing education obligation for the 2012-2014 licensing cycle. However, 6.5 hours of the continuing education documented by respondent was completed on May 2, 2012, and therefore was applicable to the 2010-2012 licensing cycle, and not the 2012-2014 cycle. Thirty (30) contact hours of qualifying continuing education was not completed until May 29, 2015. The Board further found that the information provided by respondent on her 2014 renewal application as to continuing education was not accurate, in that she represented that she would satisfy the requirement by May 31, 2014. Moreover the submission demonstrated that respondent had failed to timely complete required nursing continuing education in violation of N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3. Therefore, the reprimand and the \$250 civil penalty set forth in the Provisional Order were found to be warranted.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this 14th day of July, 2015,
ORDERED that:

1. A reprimand is imposed on Respondent for falsifying the continuing education information on her license renewal applications.

2. Respondent is assessed a civil penalty in the amount of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250). Said penalty in the amount of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250) is for failing to timely complete required continuing education. Payment shall be made by certified check, bank cashier check, or money order payable to "State of New Jersey," or by wire transfer, direct deposit, or credit card payment delivered or mailed to Leslie Burgos-Bonilla, State Board of Nursing, P.O. Box 45010, Newark, New Jersey 07101. Any other form of payment will be rejected and will be returned to the party making the payment. Payment shall be made no later than fifteen (15) days after the date of filing of this order. In the event Respondent fails to make a timely payment, a certificate of debt shall be filed in accordance with N.J.S.A. 45:1-24 and the Board may bring such other proceedings as authorized by law.

3. Continuing education hours completed on May 29, 2014 shall not also be used to satisfy the requirements of the current biennial period.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By: *Patricia Murphy PhD APN*
Patricia Murphy, PhD, APN
Board President